

## THIS ONE THING...IS THE THING

**Psalms 27:4 TPT King David said**

- 1) **Knowing God: Requires a Heart of Prayer.** Here's the one thing I crave from Yahweh, the one thing I seek above all else: I want to live with him every moment in his house, beholding the marvelous beauty of Yahweh, filled with awe, delighting in his glory and grace. I want to contemplate in his temple.

The one thing we need is the presence of God resting on us daily.

**Title: This ONE THING..IS THE THING**

Phil 3:13-14 Paul said <sup>13</sup>No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it,<sup>[a]</sup> but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us. NLT

Both David and Paul had things that have something in common. Intimacy with God. We were made for more

Jeremiah 9: 23-24 <sup>23</sup>This is what the Lord says:

“Let not the wise boast of their wisdom (**BOAST ABOUT BIBLE KNOWLEDGE**) or the strong boast of their strength (**BOAST ABOUT HOW STRONG THEY ARE**) or the rich boast of their riches, (**BOAST ABOUT WEALTH**) <sup>24</sup> **but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the Lord,** who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight,” declares the Lord.

Christianity is about intimacy with God. If it is, you will have the heart of God because you have a heart for God! As a believer, everything else in life comes under the umbrella of HIS HEART!

John 17:3 <sup>3</sup> And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth.

Eternal life is not joining a church or simply repeating a prayer. Eternal life cannot be purchased or earned. **It is not even knowing about God! I can be the most religious person on the planet and still not spend eternity with Jesus. It is not about what I know.**

**Know in the Greek is** Phonetic spelling of Ginosko. Gi-nosko. experiencing something in an intimate or personal way. A call to intimacy

How can I have peace in the midst of my problems? Because I know the Prince of Peace not the prince of panic.

I am not saying deny your problems I am saying deliver your problems to God.

Learn to release

If you know God there will be no compromise in your life.

**QUESTION: WHAT IS YOUR 1 THING?**

St. Augustine “To fall in love with God is the greatest of all romances; to seek Him, the greatest adventure; to find Him, the greatest human achievement.”

Luke 10:38-40 <sup>38</sup> As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village (BETHANY) where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister called Mary, **who sat at the Lord’s feet** listening to what he said. <sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”

Why was Mary sitting at the feet of Jesus? She was dedicated while Martha was distracted.

Martha was serving and doing good but complaining the whole time. How many people do you know that serve the Lord all the while complaining and miserable?

What did Jesus tell Martha?

<sup>41</sup> “Martha, Martha,” the Lord answered, “you are worried and upset about many things, <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.” NIV

<sup>41</sup> But the Lord said to her, “My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! <sup>42</sup> There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her.” NLT

Mary's one thing was to sit at the feet of Jesus? What is your 1 thing?

Let us make a pact and come into agreement that our 1 thing will be to sit at the feet of Jesus.

It is more important what you do with Jesus than what you do for Jesus. The Doing will follow your devotion. We can be so devoted to the details that we forget why we are doing it? We must learn to serve God out of delight rather than duty.

He wants your presence more than your presents.

Sheryl challenged me last week. Are we here to prove something or are we called? If we are called then we are committed regardless of who follows the mission with us. If we have to prove something, then we compromise the mission at the expense of a crowd.

When you are seated at the feet of Jesus you are

1. focused
2. Intimate
3. listening
4. worshiping

Martha was so busy preparing she forgot her priorities.

**Note: Humility welcomes exaltation like weakness qualifies us for strength. Striving for significance will undermine your service.**

"Do you not care my sister has left me?" If you are not at the feet of Jesus, you begin to complain. Who cares what everyone else is doing!!!! Or not doing! As a pastor, I am learning that I don't control anyone.

They are free to come and go as they please.

I have to be faithful and true to our calling and meditate on **Colossians 3:12-14**

"You are always and dearly loved by God! So robe yourself with virtues of God since you have been divinely chosen to be holy. Be merciful as you

endeavor to understand others, and be compassionate, showing kindness toward all. Be gentle and humble, **unoffendable** in your patience with others. Tolerate the weaknesses of those in the family of faith, forgiving one another in the same way you have been graciously forgiven by Jesus Christ. If you find fault with someone, release this same gift of forgiveness to them. For love is supreme and must flow through each of these virtues. Love becomes the mark of true maturity.

2) **Knowing God requires a heart of service:** <sup>41</sup> But the Lord said to her, “My dear Martha, **you are worried and upset** over all these details! <sup>42</sup> There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her.” NLT

What makes you worry and get all flustered? What causes you anxiety? Why are you frustrated over the smallest things? Why do you get all winged out so easy?

Answer: When your focus shifts inward you sink. Ask Peter what happened when he took his eyes off Jesus.

We need to focus more on the Lord than our belly buttons!  
When your focus is on Jesus your mind will no longer weave webs of anxious confusion.

Hebrews 12:2 <sup>2</sup> We do **this** by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is **seated** in the place of honor beside God’s throne.

WE DO THIS? WHAT IS THIS? GO back to Vs 1

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

What is slowing you down today? THIS ONE THING I DO!!! Keep my eyes on Jesus and run my race not someone else's!!

What does it mean to sit at the feet of Jesus? What does it mean to keep our eyes on Jesus?

Philippians 4: 6-7 <sup>6</sup> **Don't worry about anything**; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank him for all he has done.<sup>7</sup> Then you will experience **God's peace**, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

“Lord I don't know why things happen but I trust you” “Lord, I don't understand, I don't get it! I am doing all the right things. My motives are pure! What is going on? Seems like I make more people mad than glad!

**The Answer>>>> Let it go! You do you and let me do me. You do what I say and I will build it. Don't worry anymore. I will fill you with revelation and reveal more of my love to you. Your patience for others will grow from my presence.**

Gods promise to you is if you sit at the feet of Jesus, his presence will dissolve your problems and give you peace.!

As the Holy Spirit controls your mind and actions more fully, you become FREE in Him. You are increasingly released to become the one He created you to be!

Listen! His best handiwork happens when you sit in the stillness of His presence.

John 8: 32 “ You will know the truth and the truth will make you free”

**MANY PEOPLE ARE BOUND WHEN THEY COME TO CHURCH!**

A.W TOZER “I can safely say on the authority of all that is revealed on the Word of God, That any man or woman on this earth who is bound and turned off by worship is not ready for heaven.”

Sitting at the feet of Jesus is a choice!  
 , <sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has **chosen** what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”

“Sitting is better than Serving” but it is through the sitting that you learn to serve. **It is not healthy to serve God with an agenda.**

Sitting in His presence will teach you to serve sacrificially.

**Psalm 25:14** There’s a private place reserved for the lovers of God where they sit near him and receive the revelation secrets of his promises.”

John 12:1-2 Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.<sup>2</sup> Here a dinner was given in Jesus’ honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him.

Martha is serving again but she is not complaining! Why?

John 11: Martha had an encounter with the Resurrection!!  
 We need that same encounter! We need to experience the author of resurrection life. Your daily habits will put you in a prime position to receive revelation knowledge and understanding.

“My sheep hear my voice”

When you sit at the feet of Jesus and you cultivate a relationship of intimacy, nothing you own has the same value.

We must learn to lean into him and listen to what he is saying. If you go into his presence with a hidden agenda, you might confuse his voice with yours convincing and confirming your actions. **GO IN EMPTY HEADED!**

John 12:3 “Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. “

She gave her best and even wiped his feet with her hair! She didn't care what people thought!!

### 3. Knowing God requires a Heart of Surrender:

Mark 10: 21 *Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”*

Godly habits develop into a habitation. I dwell in the secret place of the all mighty. Heaven on earth is my haven of rest.  
Surrender your watch and your calendar

To the best of my ability I now get up at 4:30-5:30 with the Lord, 6:00-7:30 in the gym, 8:00-6:00 work 7-830 sermon prep bed around 930

CHURCH 1 Night Sit and Soak- Voluntary Prayer  
1 Night Bible School BSSM  
1. Night House Fires

**By surrendering your agenda by sitting at the feet of Jesus, you create a Heart of Witness — John 9:25** *He replied, “Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see.*

**Don't Ever Underestimate the Power of Your Testimony**

Acts 5:12

New American Standard Bible <sup>12</sup> [a]At the hands of the apostles many [b]signs and wonders were taking place among the people; and they were all [c]together in Solomon's [d]portico.



<sup>15</sup> to such an extent that they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any of them. <sup>16</sup> The [a]people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem were coming together as well, bringing people who were sick [b]or tormented with unclean spirits, and they were all being healed.

**What would happen if we focus on the one thing** “The Presence of God” so much that it was not a chore or work but something that you can walk in and out of at will?

Mark 6:56 New American Standard Bible<sup>56</sup> **And wherever He entered villages, or cities, or a countryside, they were laying the sick in the marketplaces and imploring Him that they might just touch the fringe of His cloak; and all who touched it were being [a]healed.**

**Acts 19:11** records that miracles were so common. “ God was performing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul.”

BY THE WHAT? OF WHO? Hands of Paul  
Faith Sees and responds to unseen realities.